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Rights of indigenous peoples

Letter dated 21 May 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a statement by the Government of Ukraine dated 16 April 2014 on its support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (see annex).

I would be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 66.

(*Signed*) Yuriy **Sergeyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

14-53828 (E) 280514

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Annex to the letter dated 21 May 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Government of Ukraine on its support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Ukraine is a multinational and multicultural unitary State.

Under the Constitution, the State promotes the consolidation and development of the Ukrainian nation, its historical consciousness, traditions and culture, as well as the development of the ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity of all indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine.

The Constitution of Ukraine, the Declaration of State Sovereignty of Ukraine and a number of legislative acts have already established and guaranteed adequate conditions for the sterling development of Ukraine's citizens of different nationalities. Ukraine has a modern political, legal and socioeconomic system harmonized with international standards, which enables the full self-realization of the human rights and freedoms of Ukraine's citizens of indigenous and ethnic minority origin.

Ukraine recognizes the need to further the harmonious development of national ethnic policy and improvement of national legislation on the realization of the rights of indigenous peoples to participate in the political, economic, social and cultural life of Ukraine.

Recognizing the role of indigenous peoples in the development and establishment of Ukraine as an independent State, enriching its culture and history, Ukraine declares its support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

By supporting the Declaration, Ukraine confirms its policy aimed at preserving and developing the Ukrainian nation, the entire diversity of ethnic groups and peoples, which is the key to the peaceful and harmonious development of our country.